ASTR 482: Scientific Writing

Prof. Emily Levesque [class info goes here] [student hours info goes here]

Website: Canvas [link]	Textbook: Make It Clear, Patrick Henry Winston
Class Date	Topic/Assignment
Week 1	The dual meaning of "scientific writing" Assignment: creating a "writing lab notebook" (5%)
Week 2	what's in a journal article? how we read Assignment: "reverse" outline of existing paper (5%)
Week 3	scientific storytelling and the art of organising a paper <i>Assignment: outline of journal paper (5%)</i>
Week 4	writing for an audience - research papers Assignment: the zero-th draft (10%)
Week 5	multimodality - figures and tables Assignment: designing paper figures (5%)
Week 6	writing aids (from writers' block tricks to ChatGPT) Assignment: rough draft week 1 (10%)
Week 7	finding your "scientific voice" Assignment: rough draft week 2 (10%)
Week 8	proofreading tips and tricks Assignment: complete journal paper (30%)
Week 9	multimodality: talks, posters, and "performance" Assignment: conference poster (5%)
Week 10	writing for an audience - popular science & storytelling Assignment: "press release"/popular article (5%)

Each assignment is due by Friday at 12:00pm noon. Assignments will be returned with feedback before the next class.

In-class exercises (examples: abstract writing, scientific-voice exercises, fact-checking ChatGPT, proofreading in small groups) are done and presented during class sessions and turned in by the end of class. Together they are worth 10% of your grade!